

## Sharon Scrogam: Putting the Care in Serenity Care for 35 Years



*By Cassandra Driskel*

Sharon Scrogam celebrated 35 years at Serenity Care last week. Sharon is the social services and human resources guru on-site there. She was surprised Thursday morning by residents and co-workers who'd decorated her office and made her a lovely gift basket to mark the occasion. You could see Sharon was overwhelmed with gratitude and appreciation. Be-

fore I got the chance to ask her a few questions about her time at Serenity, she was getting hugged and congratulated left and right. I'd only been there for a few minutes, but I could immediately tell that this woman held a substantial presence throughout the Serenity building. When it was my turn to interview Sharon, she was continuing to be doted on and receiving more hugs. She

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was verklempt (the state of being completely overcome with emotion) and absolutely humble and genuine in everyone's direction. There are few people who stay 35 years at an employer, and Sharon is an admirable example. I asked Sharon what made her get up every day to be at Serenity Care; she answered without skipping a beat, "These are my people. All of these people have become my family. The people who work here and the residents; I'm them and they're me."

Sharon has always been in social services in some capacity. You could tell it was her niche. She went on to add, "There have been times when I've been kept from my family, but it's always been to be here for my 'family', and I've always been grateful to my family at home for being so wonderful and understanding when I've been needed at Serenity."

When I asked Sharon about her motivation to be in social services she responded, "Tom Irwin was a so-

cial worker at the hospital and he had faith in me. He helped me get where I am today." She added, "Kathryn Brink was a beautiful person and a force within these walls. She inspired me and so many others."

In between wiping a few tears, Sharon went on to say, "My family has always been wonderful and supportive. They've been there with and for me during these 35 years and I've been very lucky."

Sharon exchanged a few anecdotes about Kathryn and her family. How Kathryn had helped save her brother by being the first to see him out of the ambulance when he had a heart attack. How her husband will have been at his employer for 33 years this year. When Sharon talks about Serenity Care, she speaks with an absolute tenderness and respect. Her impact at Serenity is her true allegiance to the residents and giving her very best every day. Especially after 35 years.